

20 crashes since 2009 on Marine Drive - Stanwood Camano News (WA) - September 9, 2014

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It's a scary road.

From Norman Road to downtown Stanwood on **Marine Drive** there have been at least 20 collisions since January 2009, according to records from North County Regional Fire Authority (NCRFA).

At least two **fatality** accidents occurred in two years, in the bend of the road, at 25500 **Marine Drive**, where Liz Anderson has lived for 40 years.

"I am hemmed in between two crosses," Anderson said. "It's depressing."

Just since May, she has seen three crashes in front of her farm.

One young man, she said, was thrown 226 feet across her property.

On July 17, a man was airlifted to Harborview Medical Center in Seattle with serious injuries after a head-on vehicle collision there and he died two days later.

"I called that one in," Anderson said. "They reported that accident was at Thomle Road, but it was really at my house."

To make matters, worse the Old Channel of Stillaguamish River flanks **Marine Drive** across from her farm.

About a year and a half ago, a young woman was killed on the other side of her barn.

Many accidents have happened through the years there, where she and her late husband Wally bought a hobby farm in 1973.

She remembers many years ago when they heard a screech in the middle of the night. Wally went out to find what happened, but didn't find any tracks until morning.

"Divers had to pull out the victims," Anderson said.

Anderson runs a day care at her home, and she is concerned about her families turning in.

"One of my moms got rear-ended while she was waiting to turn," she said.

Anderson is afraid to pull out of her driveway.

"I go to the post office at 5 a.m. to avoid traffic," she said.

Anderson would like to see the speed limit reduced and a load limit to prevent big semi trucks from using the road.

She said that the county did clear some brush along the road there this year.

"Not that it will do any good," she said.

Stanwood's Police Chief Rick Hawkins said his office does not have authority over **Marine Drive**, but they did a study on SR 532, which also sees even more collisions.

The police department, which is contracted with the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office, studied accidents on SR 532 from Stanwood city limits on the west end to east of 72nd Street from January 2013 to June this year.

"Most were found to result from inattention and involved under 21-year-olds and speed," Hawkins said.

While SR 532 sees several collisions each week, they are less likely to cause deaths than those on **Marine Drive**.

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